

MARICOPA WORKFORCE CONNECTION (FORMERLY, PRIVATE INDUSTRY COUNCIL)

MISSION: The Maricopa Workforce Connection (MWC) provides guidance for, and exercises oversight with respect to, activities under the Job Training Law 97-300 and Job Training plan for Maricopa County Service Delivery Area in partnership with the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors and Maricopa County Social Services Department.

FORMATION AUTHORITY: JTPA Public Law 97-300.

COMPOSITION: The Board of Supervisors established the Private Industry Council (Maricopa Workforce Connection) under the auspices of JTPA PL 97-300 (amended PL 102-367, 1982), the MWC may have no less than 20 and no more than 30 members. The length of the term of office is determined by the Board of Supervisors and shall be fixed and staggered from July 1 through June 30. The JTPA Law (PL-97-300) requires that nominations to the respective MWC be at least 150% of the number of individuals to be appointed. Private sector representatives are to be selected from among individuals nominated by general purpose business organizations. The remaining MWC members are to be selected from individuals for categories specified in the JTPA Law.

COMPOSITION: On May 4, 1987, the Board of Supervisors approved a joint-agreement between the Private Industry Council (Maricopa Workforce Connection), the Board, and the Social Services Department. The agreement prescribes the following duties and powers: “II. AUTHORITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES HELD JOINTLY BY THE BOARD AND THE (MWC); A. The Board and the (MWC) shall jointly approve the Job Training Plan, hereinafter referred to as Plan, prepared according to requirements of the Act. B. The Board and the (MWC) shall jointly ensure effective delivery of services in the approved Plan to provide the most beneficial mix of program options for Act-eligible residents of Maricopa County. C. The Board and the (MWC) shall jointly stimulate the active, effective participation of all sectors of the community, public and private, in the provision of employment and training services. III. AUTHORITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE (MARICOPA WORKFORCE CONNECTION) – Pursuant to the Act, Section 104, the (MWC) shall provide policy guidance and oversight for employment and training activities conducted in the SDA. A. (MWC) shall provide policy direction to the Department on all matters pertaining to the provision of services under the Act. B. (MWC) shall provide direction, review and approve the Plan and all modifications to the Plan developed by the Department pursuant to the Act. C. (MWC) shall provide direction to the Department on programs and service deliverers to be funded with monies made available under the Act. D. (MWC) shall assess the performance of and evaluate the benefit, productivity and impact of all programs funded. The (MWC) shall recommend corrective action as necessary. E. (MWC) shall solicit the input and participation of the local business community in the provision of program services to eligible residents of the SDA. F. (MWC) shall cause the establishment and maintenance of a process to secure public input and comment on the direction it formulates in the Plan and programs to be funded. G. (MWC) shall determine the employment needs of the area’s unemployed; the labor force needs of area employers; appropriate linkages between funds made available under the Act; economic development activities of the area; and other such analysis as are required in the Act, as well as those which (MWC) determines to be appropriate and necessary to discharge its responsibilities. H. The (MWC) shall establish an annual budget for the administration and operation of programs as outlined in the approved Plan. The (MWC) Chairperson agrees to exercise discretion in authorizing travel.”

MEETINGS: The MWC meets as a whole unit and/or subcommittee once a month, except the months of July and November. Usually the Connection as a whole meets the fourth Thursday of the month at the Durango Conference Room, 234 N. Central Avenue, 3rd Floor, Phoenix, Arizona or specified locations in Maricopa County.

LIAISON: Susan Schmidt, Acting Director, Human Services, (602) 506-0066, Fax (602) 506-4450.